No, you should rarely install vinyl flooring directly on concrete without considering moisture. While some modern luxury vinyl planks (LVP) with attached pads or specific glue-down applications claim to be waterproof, concrete acts like a sponge and constantly emits vapor. Skipping a vapor barrier risks mold, adhesive failure, and warping unless your specific product instructions explicitly waive it or a moisture test proves the slab is bone dry. Reddit · r/Flooring +2

When You Can Skip a Separate Vapor Barrier

- **Integrated Padding:** The vinyl plank has a manufacturer-approved, built-in underlayment or moisture layer. Reddit · r/Flooring +1
- **Above-Grade Slabs:** The concrete is well-cured, located well above ground level, and proven dry through a calcium chloride or relative humidity moisture test. cfdistributor.com +1
- **Strict Manufacturer Approval:** The specific product installation guide explicitly states a vapor barrier is not needed or will void the warranty if added. Reddit · r/Flooring +1

When a Vapor Barrier Is Mandatory

- **Below-Grade or Basements:** Concrete below ground level constantly draws ground moisture upward.
- **High Moisture Readings:** If concrete moisture emission tests exceed the limits specified by the flooring manufacturer.
- **Raw Slabs Without Built-in Padding:** Floating or click-lock vinyl floors installed over standard concrete slabs generally require a 6-mil polyethylene sheet barrier. Facebook · Island Carpet… +4